

MONTANA CROP PROGRESS



United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
MONTANA FIELD OFFICE
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 Cooperating with the Montana Department of Agriculture



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 1, 2017

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Montana experienced cooler temperatures along with light moisture throughout most of the state, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. High temperatures ranged from the mid-60s to the lower 80s. Low temperatures ranged from the high teens to 40 degrees. Eighty-nine weather stations reported moisture. The highest amount of precipitation was recorded in Sidney with 0.62 inches of moisture. Soil moisture conditions were recorded with 57 percent of topsoil rated very short to short, compared to 30 percent the previous year. Subsoil was rated 80 percent very short to short, compared with 38 percent last year. Reporters noted that low temperatures had some growers turning off their irrigation systems. Hard frosts were also reported, and reporters noted that temperatures in some areas were too low for planting of winter wheat, with poor germination. Winter wheat seeded was 53 percent complete, behind last year's progress of 67 percent. Potato harvest was 35 percent complete, slightly ahead of last year's progress of 28 percent. Corn for grain harvest was 14 percent complete, behind last year's progress of 28 percent.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Camelina				
Harvested	80	70	77	93
Corn				
Harvested for grain	14	6	28	14
Harvested for silage	86	80	80	75
Mustard seed				
Harvested	95	93	NA	NA
Potatoes				
Harvested	35	9	28	39
Safflower				
Harvested	54	48	51	47
Winter wheat				
Planted	53	23	67	70
Emerged	2	NA	28	20
Cattle and Calves				
Moved from summer pasture	41	35	37	41
Sheep and lambs				
Moved from summer pasture	52	45	56	54

NA – not available

(--) – zero

DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
Days suitable for field work	5.7	4.5	5.7	NA
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	19	27	10	15
Short	38	34	20	25
Adequate	42	38	60	54
Surplus	1	1	10	6
Subsoil moisture				
Very short	40	37	13	18
Short	40	31	25	28
Adequate	18	27	56	49
Surplus	2	5	6	5

NA – not available

(--) – zero

CROP, LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION

	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Corn				
Very poor	4	7	--	2
Poor	15	20	4	6
Fair	46	42	30	32
Good	33	30	51	43
Excellent	2	1	15	17
Pasture and range				
Very poor	40	42	13	16
Poor	25	26	21	21
Fair	21	22	37	32
Good	12	9	24	26
Excellent	2	1	5	5
Potatoes				
Very poor	--	--	--	NA
Poor	1	1	2	NA
Fair	8	10	5	NA
Good	62	57	46	NA
Excellent	29	32	47	NA
Safflower				
Very poor	32	30	--	NA
Poor	19	18	--	NA
Fair	48	51	7	NA
Good	1	1	78	NA
Excellent	--	--	15	NA
Sugarbeets				
Very poor	2	2	--	1
Poor	10	10	3	5
Fair	49	52	21	24
Good	34	34	64	51
Excellent	5	2	12	19

NA – not available

(--) – zero

Montana's weather data can be accessed at the following:

http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Montana/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/2017/MT_Weather_10012017.pdf